

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 10-11, and 19-20 have been amended. Claims 1-27 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Section 103(a) Rejections:

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18-20, 22, 23, 25 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel et al. (U.S. Patent 6,865,185) (hereinafter “Patel”) in view of Crosbie (U.S. Publication 2002/0035699), claims 3, 12 and 21 as being unpatentable over Crosbie in view of Ayyagari et al. (U.S. Publication 2001/0024434) (hereinafter “Ayyagari”), claims 6, 15 and 24 as being unpatentable over Patel and Crosbie in view of Zara et al. (U.S. Patent 7,206,848) (hereinafter “Zara”), claims 8, 17 and 26 as being unpatentable over Patel and Crosbie in view of Vange (U.S. Publication 2002/0059170). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Regarding claim 1, the cited art fails to teach or suggest *wherein said request includes a current user role and establishing a quality of service context based on the current user role included in said request and based on said policy data*. The Examiner admits that Patel does not disclose receiving a request that includes information indicating a current user role. The Examiner previously cited paragraphs [0043-0045] of Crosbie as allegedly teaching that the request includes information indicating a current user role, noting that Crosbie teaches utilizing user IDs to identify users that belong to different clusters (e.g., history or engineering students), and that Crosbie teaches specifying a bandwidth allocation on the WLAN depending on the user's role. In Crosbie, information indicating the role of a user (or a cluster to which the user belongs) is not included in a received request, as required by Applicant's claim. Instead, in Crosbie, a received request includes information identifying the user. In Crosbie, cluster information, i.e. information indicating that a user is a member of a cluster, and

information specifying the access privileges for members of the cluster (which may include a bandwidth allocation on the WLAN) is stored on the gateway server and is subsequently located by the gateway server to determine access privileges in response to receiving a request.

On page 3 of the Final Action mailed November 3, 2009, the Examiner stated that if the independent claims were amended to recite a request that includes a current user role, this would define over the Crosbie reference. As noted above, independent claims 1, 10, and 19 have been amended to recite a request that includes a current user role, and claims 2, 11, and 20 have been amended for consistency with these changes. Therefore, Applicants assert that the claims as allowable as amended.

For at least the reasons above, the rejection of claim 1 is unsupported by the cited art and removal thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 19 include limitations similar to those of claim 1, and so the arguments presented above apply similarly to these claims, as well.

Applicant also asserts that numerous ones of the dependent claims recite further distinctions over the cited art. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of these claims for at least the reasons given above in regard to the claims from which they depend. However, since the rejections have been shown to be unsupported for the independent claims, a further discussion of the dependent claims is not necessary at this time. Applicant reserves the right to present additional arguments.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-90800/RCK.

Respectfully submitted,

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